

PTA Meeting Minutes

Date: **January 22, 2026**

Time: **6:00 PM**

Location: **[VIRTUAL]**

Attendees:

- **PTA Officers attending:** Veronica Piedra Leon, Dorothy LeRay, Miranda Guerrero, Seth Rosner
- **PTA Officers absent:** Wendy Guaman
- **Other Attendees:** Principal Nealy, Mrs.Werth, Mrs.Luongo, Mr.Key and others. An online sign in sheet was shared in the comments. 45 attendees were accounted for during the meeting.

I. Opening the Meeting

- PTA President, Veronica Piedra Leon, called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion: A motion was passed to defer the reading of the December Meeting Minutes due to the Recording Secretary's absence.
- Vote: 17 yes votes.
- December Meeting Minutes will be shared and reviewed with the families at February's meeting.

III. Meeting Agenda

- The purpose of this meeting is to discuss upcoming events and updates for PS165Q.
- Agenda Items:
 - Approval for December 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - Students of the Month (Math) and Core Value Champions (Kindness)
 - Educator of the Month: Ms. Ekatherine Petrakos
 - Treasurer's Report: January 2026
 - President's Report
 - Special Guest: Stephanie Collado, D25 CEC Member and Katherine Zapata, Director of Education, Queens Borough President
 - Principal's Report
 - January Birthdays

- Questions and Answers

II. Students of the Month, Core Value Champions & Birthdays

- Students of the Month for **Math** and Core Value Champions for **Kindness** were congratulated by Ms. Werth and Ms. Luongo.

III. Educator of the Month

Principal Nealy introduced Ms. Ekatherine Petrakos, Educator of the Month. Ms. Ekatherine Petrakos has been teaching at P.S.165 for 15 years. She is involved with the chronic absenteeism team.

IV. Reports

- President's Report: Veronica Piedra Leon provided updates on upcoming events.
 - Recap of last year's highlights and accomplishments
 - Shared updates from CPAC, CEC, D25 President's Council, and Safety Team. No SLT meetings were provided as SLT was scheduled for Monday, 01/26/26
 - PTA Interim Financial Report due on Jan 30th.
 - Updates:
 - Classroom Grants updates
 - Spirit Wear Sale extended until January 30.
 - Sweetheart Shop: Pre-orders will start on Feb 2.
 - Scholastic Book Fair and Snack Stand details will be discussed at our February Meeting.
 - Reminded Membership about PTA upcoming meeting dates
- **Treasurer's Report:**
 - Dorothy LeRay presented financial updates, showing a balance of \$13,752.10 in the PTA account.
 - Beginning Balance: \$14,422.57
 - Ending Balance: \$13,752.10

VII. Announcements

- Veronica Piedra Leon announced the date for the next PTA general meeting which will take place virtually on Zoom on February 26, 2026.

VIII. Guest Speaker

- **Stephanie Collado**: D25 CEC Recording Secretary, PS164 PTA Secretary

- The CEC closely works with Superintendent Dantona. The CEC offers updates from the School Construction Authority
- Stephanie is involved in the Save for College Program. She offers workshops to families about NYC Rise.
- Reminder: The next CEC Meeting will take place on February 4th, 2026 at District Office Linden Location.
- **Katherine Zapata**: Deputy Director for Intergovernmental Affairs and Director of Education, Queens Borough President
- Katherine shared updates from the QBP office (including upcoming events).
- QBP has funded Labs in Queens School. Schools who have applied for this funding have been funded.
- Informed families about RESO A Funding which is a discretionary grant from the Borough President or City Council Member that funds enhancement to school buildings.
- Examples of qualifying RESO A projects: Renovations, Labs, Technology Upgrades, HVAC System Upgrades.
- Reminder: All Principals should have already received an application from Ms.Zapata via a Google Form. The due date is February 27, 2026 and the application requires a Letter of Support from the PTA.
- Principal Nealy asked Ms. Zapata for clarification if the letter was mandatory.

IX. The floor was opened to questions - no questions received.

- **Principal's Report:**
 - Principal Nealy informed families that next year's budget is at risk due to the lack of returned Income Verification Forms. These forms are required for us to receive funds as a Title 1 School. Lack of participation will affect next year's budget.
 - Principal Nealy shared updates about upcoming residencies.
 - 4th Grade will start Ballroom dancing.
 - 2nd Grade has begun swimming.
 - 5th Grade has robotics
 - Test prep morning academy will start next week.
 - **Principal's Budget Report (12/15/26-01/22/26):**
 - **Supplies for OT/PT:** \$18,292.80
 - **Major Resources:** \$2,941.20
 - **Test Prep Books:** \$8,028

- **A-Z Learning:** \$8,049.60
 - **Postage:** \$667.56
 - **Copier Lease:** \$6,360
 - **Book Source:** \$7,049.90
 - **Parenting Books and Translation Devices:** **\$10,000**
 - **Curriculum Resources:** \$528.47
 - **Teacher Supplies:** \$36,028.14
 - **Last 4 weeks of expenditure:** \$97,945.67
- Principal Nealy shared that she had been in communication with elected officials regarding funding.
- Questions and Answers
 - A question was made about what kind of support parents could provide to help advocate for funding for the school.
 - Principal Nealy indicated that she likes to follow the process.

Upcoming Meeting Details

- Date: February 26, 2026
- Time: 6:00 PM
- Location: VIRTUAL on Zoom

X. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM by Veronica Piedra Leon.

Notes:

- Minutes recorded by: Dorothy LeRay, Veronica Piedra Leon, Wendy Guaman